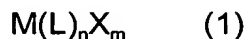


Claims

1. The use of transition metal complexes having nitrogen-containing ligands as catalyst for peroxygen compounds, wherein the transition metal complexes have the formula (1)



where

- M is a metal atom from the group Mn, Fe, Co, Ni, Mo, W,
L is a ligand from the group of nitrogen-containing heterocycles,
X is chloride, bromide, nitrate, perchlorate, sulfate, ammonia, tetrafluoroborate, hexafluorophosphate or an anion of an organic acid having 1 to 22 carbon atoms,
n is a number from 2 to 4 and m is a number from 0 to 4.
2. The use as claimed in claim 1, wherein L in the formula (1) is pyridine, imidazole, picoline, imidazoline, pyrrole, pyrazole, triazole, hexamethylenimine, piperidine or lutidine.
3. The use as claimed in claim 1, wherein the peroxygen compound used is organic peracids, hydrogen peroxide, perborate and percarbonate, and mixtures thereof.
4. The use as claimed in claim 1 in aqueous solutions for textile washing, in aqueous cleaning solutions for hard surfaces and for the bleaching of colored soilings.
5. The use as claimed in claim 1, wherein a compound which eliminates peroxocarboxylic acid under perhydrolysis conditions is used at the same time as the complex compound of the formula 1.

6. A washing, bleaching or cleaning composition comprising a transition metal complex of the formula 1 as in claim 1.
7. A washing, bleaching or cleaning composition comprising 0.0025 to 1% by weight, in particular 0.01% by weight to 0.1% by weight, of transition metal complex of the formula 1 as in claim 1.
8. A washing, bleaching or cleaning composition comprising a transition metal complex of the formula 1 as in claim 1, and also 1 to 10% by weight, in particular 2% by weight to 6% by weight, of a compound which eliminates peroxycarboxylic acid under perhydrolysis conditions.